GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3045
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2003
CENTRAL RURAL SANITATION PROGRAMME
JAYASHREE BANERJEE;RAMJI MANJHI

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether only one fifth of the total rural households have been covered under the Sanitation Programme of the Central Rural Sanitation Programme as on date;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) the time by which all the households in rural India are likely to be covered under the sanitation programme;

(d) whether the Government have reduced the allocation under the Central Rural Sanitation Programme;

(e) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to enhance the allocation to achieve the target under the scheme?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL)

(a) to (f) Yes, Sir. It is true that only about one fifth of the total rural households have sanitation facilities. This has been revealed in the National Family Health Survey conducted in the year 2000.The primary reason for this is the general habit of open defecation in the rural areas combined with low level of awareness about the health implications and prevailing poverty in the rural areas. Government of India attaches priority to expanding sanitation coverage in rural areas. For this purpose, a revised strategy is being followed under which a ` demand driven`, people oriented. Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) projects are implemented.So far, 185 TSC projects have been sanctioned in the country. It is proposed to sanction TSC projects in all the districts by the end of 10th Plan.

Government of India is targeting for sanitation coverage of 35% by the end of 10th Five Year Plan.

It is not true that allocation under CRSP has been reduced, rather it is being increased gradually every year.Since the TSC projects are demand driven projects, if the need for sanitation is created, more funds will be made available for sanitation programme in the country.